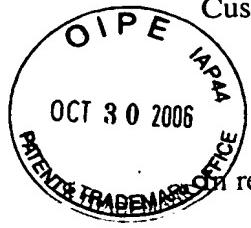


*JFW*  
Patent

Docket No. 59474.21780  
Customer No. 30734



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of: )  
Donald F. WILSON, Jr., et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3734  
Application No.: 10/763,032 ) Examiner: Melissa K. Ryckman  
Filed: January 22, 2004 ) Confirmation No.: 6979  
Title: LIGATING CLIP WITH INTEGRAL INTERLOCKING LATCH MECHANISM

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

**Mail Stop AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 28, 2006, to which a response is due without an extension by October 28, 2006, please amend and reconsider the above-identified patent application as follows. Entry of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested since they are believed to place the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal and do not raise any new issues requiring further consideration and/or search.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

Please reconsider the above-identified patent application as follows: